

Additive manufacturing: KIMYA partners with leader STRATASYS

Stratasys, a global leader in polymer 3D printing solutions, has selected KIMYA, an ARMOR company, to provide Stratasys Validated materials for its FDM® technology-based systems, which were previously closed to third-party filaments. With the integration of KIMYA into its ecosystem, Stratasys offers its customers a wider range of materials, greater flexibility, and the ability to accelerate the adoption of additive manufacturing into their production processes.

Two new Kimya Stratasys Validated materials

Stratasys, a global leader in polymer 3D printing solutions, has selected KIMYA, an ARMOR company, to provide Stratasys Validated materials for its FDM technology-based systems, which were previously closed to third-party filaments. Both an expert in custom 3D material formulation and the production of finished parts with utility value, KIMYA now offers Stratasys' industrial customers two new materials: EN45545–2 certified polycarbon filament (Kimya PC-FR) and a polyetherketone filament made from Arkema's KEPSTAN® (Kimya PEKK-SC). These two materials will be marketed from the second half of 2022 and will be used in particular in the rail and oil industries.

"We are expanding our ecosystem of materials to offer our customers a wide range of 3D printing technologies and solutions, while ensuring our customers maintain the utmost confidence in the performance of these filaments. That's why we partner with excellent companies like KIMYA, whose expertise in custom 3D material formulation includes the production of finished parts with use value," said Adam Pawloski, Vice President of Manufacturing Solutions at Stratasys.

Accelerating the adoption of additive manufacturing

These initial materials begin what both companies say should be a long-term partnership to accelerate the adoption of additive manufacturing at production scale. Stratasys and KIMYA also initiated an R&D program with the goal to bring new co-branded filaments to market by spring 2023. For example, KIMYA brings unique expertise in formulating recycled 3D materials that could be applied to the collaboration. Additionally, through the provision of a Stratasys Open Materials License, KIMYA will have the opportunity to work directly on the printing parameters of Stratasys printers to develop new custom materials.

"We are delighted to see the expertise of KIMYA's teams recognized by the world's leading polymer 3D printing solution provider. Together, we will be able to offer manufacturers new innovative and high-performance materials capable of meeting an ever-growing number of applications. This partnership reflects our common vision of the market, which is to accelerate the transition of additive manufacturing to production scale through the creation of a strong ecosystem. The partnership is the outlight of KIMYA's vision of the essential role of industry, and more specifically of 3D printing, in today's world: to produce just, without wasting resources, as close as possible to the needs of the market" concludes Pierre-Antoine Pluvineau, Business Development Director at KIMYA.

About Stratasys

Stratasys is leading the global shift to additive manufacturing with innovative 3D printing solutions for industries such as aerospace, automotive, consumer products and healthcare. Through smart and connected 3D printers, polymer materials, a software ecosystem, and parts on demand, Stratasys solutions deliver competitive advantages at every stage in the product value chain. The world's leading organizations turn to Stratasys to transform product design, bring agility to manufacturing and supply chains, and improve patient care. www.stratasys.com

About KIMYA

A pioneer in additive manufacturing, **KIMYA**, an ARMOR Group company, designs and produces materials for 3D printing for local production. KIMYA offers a range of ready-to-use filaments (Kimya Materials), supports its industrial customers in the production of finished parts (Kimya Factory), through the design and production of custom 3D printing materials with high added value (Kimya Lab). With several dozen employees, KIMYA has a production site of over 2,000 m² in France and a subsidiary in the United States. www.kimya.fr

About ARMOR

ARMOR specialises in the industrial formulation of inks and the coating of thin layers onto thin films. The Group is the global market leader in the design and manufacture of thermal transfer ribbons for printing variable traceability data on labels and flexible packaging (ARMOR-IIMAK). Major European player in innovative and sustainable inks and consumables as well as printing services (ARMOR Print Solutions), the Group is a pioneer in the development and production of industrial inks (A-2-i) and innovative materials, such as organic solar films (ASCA), coated collectors for electric batteries (En'Safe®) and bespoke filaments for additive manufacturing (KIMYA). With an international presence, ARMOR has nearly 2,450 employees in some 20 different countries. In 2021 it posted annual revenue of €403m. Each year the group invests nearly €30m in industrial equipment and R&D. ARMOR is a responsible company committed to stimulating innovation within society. www.armor-group.com



Photo credits: KIMYA and Stratasys